



Directions for accessing Cape Horn Winter Rental:

Cape Horn Guard Station is located in the Stanley Basin, 16 miles northeast of Stanley, Idaho. The Guard Station is 1.75 miles to the west of State Highway 21. Access during the winter is by skiing, snowshoeing or snowmobiling from parking areas on State Highway 21. It is about a three hour drive from Boise to the Stanley Basin, from either State Highway 21 coming through Idaho City and Lowman and Banner Summit or from State Highway 55 coming through Horseshoe Bend, turning right at Banks to Garden Valley and on to State Highway 21 at Lowman and over Banner Summit. The drive from Sun Valley over Galena Summit is approximately two hours.

There are two routes to Cape Horn. Route #1 is used primarily by snowmobilers and route #2 generally used by skiers. Directions are as follows:

Route #1:

This route is approximately 4.3 miles. Parking is in a plowed turnout on state highway 21. The pullout is approximately seven miles north of Banner Summit and is across the highway from the turnoff to Forest Roads #083 and #203. A sign at the pull out (if visible during the winter), says “Lola Creek Campground, Bradley Boy scout Camp, and Seafoam.”



Follow the groomed snowmobile trail from Hwy 21 onto Forest Road #203 crossing the Marsh Creek Bridge, bearing right at the junction of Forest Roads #008 and #203 and then paralleling Hwy 21 and Marsh Creek on Forest Road #203 for about 3 miles.

The turn off to Cape Horn Station from Forest Road #203 is marked by a sign identifying the station. There is an orange marker affixed to this sign. The guard station sits northeast of this sign. Once you travel about 100 yards in that direction, you will see two metal gates. One gate is marked by 14 foot high side posts with a post across the top, a “ranch style” gate entrance. Access to the station is a marked by a pass through to the right of the gates. The station is another few hundred yards beyond the gates.



Cape Horn is well HIDDEN in the stand of lodge pole pine trees. If you do not turn off the snowmobile trail and you cross the Knapp Creek Bridge and see a brown Ranch house about ½ mile to the northeast you have missed the turn off to the Guard Station by a few hundred yards.

Route #2



Skiers wishing to take a 1.75 mile cross country route to the guard station may park up to two vehicles in a plowed turnout, 1.3 miles northwest of Vadar Creek Rest Stop on State Highway 21. Orange poles just off the main highway mark the pullout. This pullout is between mile markers 115 and 116 if they are visible.

Coming from Boise on Hwy 21 the pullout is 6.3 miles beyond Forest Road #579, (marked by a sign that says "Boundary Creek Boat Launch").

Coming from Stanley, the pullout is about 15.7 miles from the junctions of Hwy 75 and Hwy 21. Both Vadar Creek Rest Stop and the pullout are on the northeast side of the highway. From the vehicle pullout, ski across a meadow following a series of florescent orange poles. The makers were laid out to help navigate several streams and creeks. The orange poles will lead you across a meadow to a bridge, which crosses Marsh Creek. Take care to cross this sheep bridge in the center, as snow makes it look wider than it actually is. After crossing the bridge climb up the bench. If visibility is good, ski toward a brown ranch house, located a mile or so away (look for it where the valley floor meets the tree line).

If visibility is poor, ski along the bench keeping next to the stand of trees to your left, holding the same direction as you have been traveling and following the orange markers. In less than a half mile you will reach a snowmobile trail (Forest Road #203 – this trail is generally groomed once a week). Turn left onto the snowmobile trail to cross the Knapp Creek Bridge (turning away from the brown ranch house still about a half mile away). Cross the bridge (marked by an orange marker) and follow the trail another few hundred feet.

At the next orange marker you come to after crossing the bridge, turn to your right. This marker is attached to the Cape Horn Guard Station entrance sign (this sign may be under snow, but generally the top portion is visible throughout the winter). The guard station sits northeast of this sign. Once you travel about 100 yards in that direction, you will see two metal gates. To the right of these gates is a pass through marked on either side with orange markers. Ski another few hundred yards and you are there. Cape Horn is well hidden in the stand of Lodgepole pine trees.